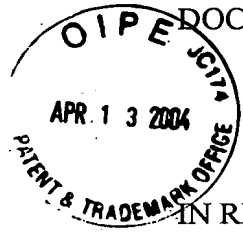


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DOCKET NO. 3802-013-27 NATL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Michael MENDEZ, et al.

ART UNIT: 1636

SERIAL NO.: 09/762,476

EXAMINER: Ramin Akhavan

FILING DATE: September 27, 2001

FOR: HYBRID YEAST-BACTERIA CLONING SYSTEM AND USES THEREOF

AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
PO BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

Responsive to the outstanding Office Action dated January 13, 2004, entry of the following amendments is respectfully requested.



PIPER RUDNICK ^{LLP}
1200 NINETEENTH STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20036-2412
TELEPHONE: 202-861-3900
FACSIMILE: 202-223-2085

DOCKET NO.: 3802-013-27 NATL

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
PO BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

Re: Serial No.: 09/762,476
Applicant(s): Michael MENDEZ, et al.
Filing Date: September 27, 2001
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THEREOF
Group Art Unit: 1636
Examiner: Ramin Akhavan

SIR:

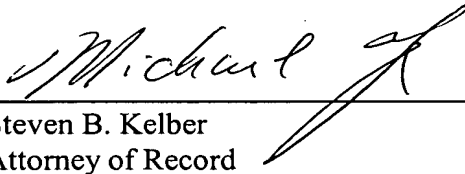
Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Amendment

Our check in the amount of \$ 0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary extension of time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to Deposit Account No. 50-1442. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a request is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

PIPER RUDNICK LLP



Steven B. Kelber
Attorney of Record
Registration No.: 30,073

Michael Ye
Registration No.: 47,195